

February 19

**Ecclesiasticus
3:21-24**

**“Impaired
Judgment”**



²¹ Seek not out the things that are too hard for thee, neither search the things that are above thy strength.

²² But what is commanded thee, think thereupon with reverence, for it is not needful for thee, to see with thine eyes, the things that are in secret.

²³ Be not curious in unnecessary matters: for more things are

shewed unto thee, than
men understand.

²⁴ For many are
deceived by their own
vain opinion, and an
evil suspicion hath
overthrown
their judgment.

“Stay in your lane”, as
the saying goes. Accept
what is within your
emotional and spiritual
capabilities. Pursue what

you're supposed to go
after and appreciate
“what is commanded
thee” without trying to
reach into things that
are not for you.

Understand that you
don't need to SEE certain
secretive things. Don't be
curious about
“unnecessary matters”
because you already
know more than many
people know.

Question: Why would restrictions be placed against potential intellectual advancement?

Answer: This passage indicates that one's own vain opinion can lead to deception and faulty suspicions, which in turn, will lead to the breakdown of judgment, reasoning, or decision-making abilities. That condition

leads to one being
overthrown—to one's
downfall, defeat, or ruin.

In other words, delving
into the wrong things—
things which are not for
you, can mess you up!

Consider the account of
Adam and Eve. Though
they had all the
knowledge they needed,
they were led astray. Eve
thought of the forbidden
fruit as being useful “to

make one wise”. Hence,
she started to reach for
an area of knowledge
that was not designed for
her.

The “evil suspicion” took
root from the serpent’s
words that God was
keeping something that
was good away from her.
That faulty premise led
to the type of thinking
that, “God is against
you”. They went from
that stage of deception to

the final step—believing,
embracing, and acting on
twisted information,
which caused our
fore-parents to be
overthrown.

This is a warning for the
purpose of protection,
rather than a prohibition
against knowledge.
As one really and truly
values “**what is
commanded thee**” (as
found in Scripture),

one will come to “**think
thereupon with
reverence**”.

That, alone— thinking
about and revering the
things which are actually
for you, will keep you
occupied and will,
spiritually speaking,
prevent you from
going off track.

It will safeguard you
from being derailed. It
will ultimately shield you
from having your

thought process and your
ability to judge right
from wrong, from being
overthrown.

Staying in your lane,
so to speak, or more
accurately, focusing
on God and allowing
the LORD to direct all
your paths,
including what you
need to know,
is a defense against
impaired judgment.